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CHINA

Gamewell

# HOW OUR HELPERS HELP

By  
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## I

THE girls of the Peking School returned from their first vacation. Among others were Clara and Sarah Wang (Sarah Fawcett Wang). Clara and Sarah were girls of about eleven and thirteen years of age.

They wept bitterly, and said that never, never did they wish to go home again. They had been made to suffer many indignities and insults because they had come into their native village with unbound feet, where girls with unbound feet had never before been seen, and now they never wanted to go home again.

We told them of the difficulties of all new beginnings and how much they could help all who should come after them if they could have the courage to bear the brunt of pioneer work in these new beginnings. And we appealed to them in Christ's name, "Can you not do this for his sake? Will you not help his cause by bearing this hardship? Go home every vacation and tell your villagers that it is for love of a new-found God and a precious

Saviour that you remove the bandages which deform the body which he claims for his temple. Keep on telling, and after a while they will understand; and you will have served your Saviour and made things easier for all other girls who shall unbind their feet." Those girls responded to such an appeal like soldiers to the bugle call, and never after did they complain. They went their way on their unbound feet—a way which led to many another break with ancient customs which lay across the path of Christ's gospel. *So our young girls helped.*

## II

Mark, with all his talent coveted for gospel work, was tempted to give his time to money making. Bright business opportunity lured him, and our prayers and exhortations were failing. Then we appealed to Sarah, his wife: "Hold on to Mark. Don't let him go." And Sarah did hold on to Mark, even when she feared that her opposition to his wishes might cost her his love. The struggle with and victory over temptation meant renewed consecration and development for Mark; and once the temptation to leave for business was past Mark increased rapidly in strength of character and in spiritual power. When reconstruction days followed the fearful ravages of the persecution of 1900 Mark was the strong right arm of the missionaries in his district—

Mark, steady and true, strong and effective for service!

It was he who introduced into North China Conference and carried through a resolution forbidding native preachers to



MARK

CHEN HENG TE

betroth their sons to girls having bound feet, bidding them to encourage all church members to unbind the feet of their girls, and also to unbind the feet of their own wives.

### III

Chen Heng Te left Peking when the storm clouds were rolling in rapidly. Some one begged him to stay because his church in the East was already within the storm center. They told him how bad it would be for his wife and children to be taken into such danger.

He gravely replied, "I'll talk with Sai-na [his wife], and it shall be as she says." Dear little wife and mother! One of our own best girls! She and Heng Te counseled together, and she agreed with him that it was best to go. "For our people need us," she said. God saved them out of the terrors which soon enveloped them and their little church; and they are now at work as of old, mutually holding each other up and together advancing in the front ranks of an advancing church.

*So our young people help each other and the church in China by a partnership that uplifts womanhood and manhood, as, with good courage and resistless patience, they shape their lives to their interpretation of the Divine Leader's instructions.*

Yes, only give leaders of vision, faith, and courage to lead, and these children of the light, springing from the bondage and darkness of conservative ages, will steadily follow through no matter what peril and sacrifice.

## IV

Chi Hsien thought he would go and make money. He felt that he ought to preach, but tried to make himself believe that he had no call. His comrades—con-



SARAH  
MARK'S WIFE

SAI-NA  
CHEN HENG TE'S WIFE

secrated young fellows—said, "Come with us." He went. They shut the door, and in that room prayed and talked and talked and prayed until Chi Hsien gave it up and said, "Yes, I know I ought, and I

will give myself to Jesus to preach for him." He came from that room radiant, and had two years of glorious service before a bullet pierced his brain while he stood at his post during the siege of Peking, and his spirit was set free. How they help! These people who thirty years ago had *never heard* of God or Christ *give their all, including their lives*, that they may help manifest Christ and carry his gospel!

## V

Wei Ping hurried from the camps where he was getting one hundred dollars a month as interpreter and urged that as soon as a preaching place could be found he must be at preaching. (While preaching he would not get more than a sixth of what he received in the camp.) Preaching he is now, and a consecrated company like him and his wife are helping by all the power that there is in youth and consecrated talent and absolute *self-giving*.

## VI

Chen Ta Yung gave his life for the faith. His sons, nothing daunted, still live for the faith and serve for *little*, when their talents could command elsewhere silk robes and ease and all else that money might bring.

## VII

Cheng Pei (Sarah's brother) was shot at his post in the siege. With his last breath he said, "I suffer, but Jesus is here."

## VIII

Te Jui, hunted like a wild beast from cave to cornfield and into the hills and out again, still stands strong, steadfast, and fearless, preaching the gospel with might.

## IX

Mrs. Wang, with feet recently unbound, though she is seventy years old, walking with a cane, still goes her way unmindful of weariness and hunger, if only she may do her part to *help* bring in the gospel.

Nowhere on earth are there more faithful, self-sacrificing Christians than in old China, where a *Christian* takes it as a *matter of course* that *being a Christian means helping* bring in the gospel. So *every Christian is a helper*, and *every helper helps* by *giving self* to God and then *doing* what God tells him to do as he understands it.

God save the church in China from ever learning that Christians may do otherwise and yet hope to see his face in peace!